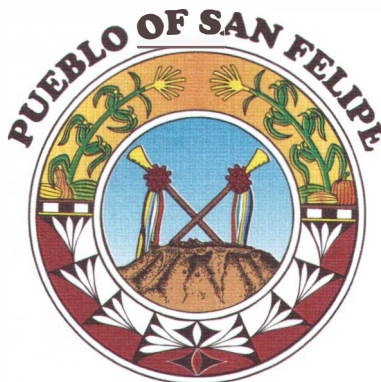


P.O. Box 4339
San Felipe Pueblo, NM 87001

Phone: (505) 867-3835
FAX: (505) 867-3833



Child Care Program

February 19, 2021

Office of Child Care
330 C ST SW, 4th Floor
Washington, DC 20201

Dear OCC Director:

This letter describes how the Pueblo of San Felipe plans to use the Child Care and Development Funds (CCDF) awarded under the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA). We understand that this description will be used for the purpose of informing the Office of Child Care, Administration for Children and Families and Congress how the Pueblo of San Felipe anticipates using the funds to support the child care needs in our jurisdiction.

We plan to use CRRSA funds for activities in the following categories:

1. Direct Services/Subsidies:

- The Child Care Department will provide 10 mini grants to essential and front line workers. (Health Care sector employees, emergency responders, sanitation workers, food service workers and/or other workers deemed essential. The mini grants will be used at a Center based location of the family's choosing.
 - The grant will only be issued when no relative is available on-Pueblo to provide child care, which is the standard procedure given the Pueblo's current stay at home Order.
 - To comply with the Tribe's Order, each grant request will be reviewed on a case-by-case basis to ensure the health and safety of the broader San Felipe community.
 - Grants will be allocated on a first come first serve basis.

2. Implementation of Virus Mitigation Policies and Practices:

- The Pueblo of San Felipe Child Care Department will provide resources, supplies and technical assistance to support implementation of health and safety practices that reflect the guidance of the New Mexico Department of Health and the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

- The Pueblo will contract with a local artist to design a culturally relevant calendar that will focus on health and safety practices. The Calendar will be available to other Pueblo of San Felipe Departments as part of the Pueblo's overall Health & Safety Community Education Initiative.
- The Pueblo will purchase appropriate PPE for each child care provider such as, hand sanitizer, hand soap, paper towels, masks, and disinfecting/cleaning supplies.
- Given the current guidance on double masking, the Pueblo will purchase mask making supplies to include a mask pattern, cotton fabric, elastic and basic sewing supplies such as thread, pins, and needles. This will be an at home and hands on project for child care providers and children.

3. Grants or Assistance (Other than Subsidies) to Stabilize Child Care Providers

- The Pueblo of San Felipe Child Care Department will increase payment rates for child care providers to assist providers in meeting increased operating expenses.
 - Will provide subsidy based on Child's Enrollment.
 - The increase will remain in effect until the Tribe's stay at home order is lifted, or when funds run low.

4. Assistance to Providers Not Participating in the Subsidy System Prior to the Pandemic

- The Pueblo of San Felipe Child Care Department has not determined how to use funds under this category. We are waiting on further guidance.

5. Other

- Purchase nutritious snacks/food items for children;
- Purchase appropriate formula and diapers for infants and toddlers;
- Perform a deep clean/sanitizing of the entire child care provider's home affected by Covid-19, as needed;
- Provide referrals and resources for therapy/coaching for trauma & grief for families;
- Provide a culturally appropriate social/emotional toolkit to assist child care providers to implement social-emotional support strategies as part of their caring for children;
- Incorporate activities and resources to address self-care and mental health issues that may arise for Providers during the pandemic;
- Strengthen safety for Providers and Staff by implementing:
 - A check-in station at the Child Care Department with standard practices such as temperature taking, answering the COVID-19 questions, wearing masks, issuing masks as needed for visitors;
 - Establishing sanitizing stations;
 - Increasing signage addressing health and safety measures during COVID-19.

The Pueblo of San Felipe will amend our CCDF plan as a result of activities implemented under CRRSA funding not currently described in the plan, within 60 days of implementation.

Sincerely,

/s/

Meredith Ansera,
Program Coordinator
Pueblo of San Felipe

cc: Gwendolyn Jones, Regional Program Manager, Office of Child Care, Region 6
Joey Bishop, Program Specialist, Office of Child Care, Region 6